

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

CASE NO. 22-20269-Cr-Scola

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CARLOS ORLANDO LEDESMA,

Defendant.

PLEA AGREEMENT

The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida ("this Office") and Carlos Orlando Ledesma (hereinafter referred to as the "defendant") enter into the following agreement:

1. The defendant agrees to plead guilty to Count 1 of the indictment, which count charges the defendant with conspiring with others, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371, to export boat engines and parts that were stolen, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 553(a)(1), and to export boat engines and parts contrary to law, that is, contrary to Title 13, United States Code, Section 305, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 554(a).

2. This Office agrees to seek dismissal of counts 2 through 10 of the indictment as to this defendant after sentencing.

3. The defendant is aware that the sentence will be imposed by the Court after considering the advisory Federal Sentencing Guidelines and Policy Statements (hereinafter "Sentencing Guidelines"). The defendant acknowledges and understands that the Court will compute an advisory sentence under the Sentencing Guidelines and that the applicable guidelines will be determined by the Court relying in part on the results of a pre-sentence investigation by the Court's

probation office, which investigation will commence after the guilty plea has been entered. The defendant is also aware that, under certain circumstances, the Court may depart from the advisory sentencing guideline range that it has computed, and may raise or lower that advisory sentence under the Sentencing Guidelines. The defendant is further aware and understands that the Court is required to consider the advisory guideline range determined under the Sentencing Guidelines, but is not bound to impose a sentence within that advisory range; the Court is permitted to tailor the ultimate sentence in light of other statutory concerns, and such sentence may be either more severe or less severe than the Sentencing Guidelines' advisory range. Knowing these facts, the defendant understands and acknowledges that the Court has the authority to impose any sentence within and up to the statutory maximum authorized by law for the offense(s) identified in paragraph 1 and that the defendant may not withdraw the plea solely as a result of the sentence imposed.

4. The defendant also understands and acknowledges that the Court may impose a statutory maximum term of imprisonment of up to five (5) years, followed by a term of supervised release of up to three (3) years. In addition to a term of imprisonment and supervised release, the Court may impose a fine of up to \$250,000.00 and may order forfeiture and restitution.

5. The defendant further understands and acknowledges that, in addition to any sentence imposed under paragraph 4 of this agreement, a special assessment in the amount of \$100.00 will be imposed on the defendant. The defendant agrees that any special assessment imposed shall be paid at the time of sentencing. If a defendant is financially unable to pay the special assessment, the defendant agrees to present evidence to this Office and the Court at the time of sentencing as to the reasons for the defendant's failure to pay.

6. This Office reserves the right to inform the Court and the probation office of all facts pertinent to the sentencing process, including all relevant information concerning the offenses committed, whether charged or not, as well as concerning the defendant and the defendant's background. Subject only to the express terms of any agreed-upon sentencing recommendations contained in this agreement, this Office further reserves the right to make any recommendation as to the quality and quantity of punishment.

7. This Office agrees that it will recommend at sentencing that the Court reduce by two levels the sentencing guideline level applicable to the defendant's offense, pursuant to Section 3E1.1(a) of the Sentencing Guidelines, based upon the defendant's recognition and affirmative and timely acceptance of personal responsibility. If at the time of sentencing the defendant's offense level is determined to be 16 or greater, this Office will file a motion requesting an additional one level decrease pursuant to Section 3E1.1(b) of the Sentencing Guidelines, stating that the defendant has assisted authorities in the investigation or prosecution of the defendant's own misconduct by timely notifying authorities of the defendant's intention to enter a plea of guilty, thereby permitting the government to avoid preparing for trial and permitting the government and the Court to allocate their resources efficiently. This Office further agrees to recommend that the defendant be sentenced at the low end of the guideline range, as that range is determined by the Court. This Office, however, will not be required to make this motion and these recommendations if the defendant: (1) fails or refuses to make a full, accurate and complete disclosure to the probation office of the circumstances surrounding the relevant offense conduct; (2) is found to have misrepresented facts to the government prior to entering into this plea agreement; or (3) commits any misconduct after entering into this plea agreement, including but

not limited to committing a state or federal offense, violating any term of release, or making false statements or misrepresentations to any governmental entity or official.

8. The defendant agrees that he/she shall cooperate fully with this Office by: (a) providing truthful and complete information and testimony, and producing documents, records and other evidence, when called upon by this Office, whether in interviews, before a grand jury, or at any trial or other Court proceeding; (b) appearing at such grand jury proceedings, hearings, trials, and other judicial proceedings, and at meetings, as may be required by this Office; and (c) if requested by this Office, working in an undercover role under the supervision of, and in compliance with, law enforcement officers and agents. In addition, the defendant agrees that she will not protect any person or entity through false information or omission, that she will not falsely implicate any person or entity, and that she will not commit any further crimes.

9. This Office reserves the right to evaluate the nature and extent of the defendant's cooperation and to make that cooperation, or lack thereof, known to the Court at the time of sentencing. If in the sole and unreviewable judgment of this Office the defendant's cooperation is of such quality and significance to the investigation or prosecution of other criminal matters as to warrant the Court's downward departure from the advisory sentencing range calculated under the Sentencing Guidelines and/or any applicable minimum mandatory sentence, this Office may make a motion prior to sentencing pursuant to Section 5K1.1 of the Sentencing Guidelines and/or Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553(e), or subsequent to sentencing pursuant to Rule 35 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, informing the Court that the defendant has provided substantial assistance and recommending that the defendant's sentence be reduced. The defendant understands and agrees, however, that nothing in this agreement requires this Office to

file any such motions, and that this Office's assessment of the quality and significance of the defendant's cooperation shall be binding as it relates to the appropriateness of this Office's filing or non-filing of a motion to reduce sentence.

10. The defendant understands and acknowledges that the Court is under no obligation to grant a motion for reduction of sentence filed by this Office. In addition, the defendant further understands and acknowledges that the Court is under no obligation of any type to reduce the defendant's sentence because of the defendant's cooperation.

11. This Office and the defendant agree that, although not binding on the probation office or the Court, they will jointly recommend that the Court make the following findings and conclusions as to the sentence to be imposed: (1). Loss: That the relevant amount of actual, probable or intended loss under Section 2B1.1(b)(1) of the Sentencing Guidelines resulting from the offense committed in this case is between \$9,500,000 and \$25,000,000.

12. The defendant is aware that the sentence has not yet been determined by the Court. The defendant also is aware that any estimate of the probable sentencing range or sentence that the defendant may receive, whether that estimate comes from the defendant's attorney, this Office, or the probation office, is a prediction, not a promise, and is not binding on this Office, the probation office or the Court. The defendant understands further that any recommendation that this Office makes to the Court as to sentencing, whether pursuant to this agreement or otherwise, is not binding on the Court and the Court may disregard the recommendation in its entirety. The defendant understands and acknowledges, as previously acknowledged in paragraph 2 above, that the defendant may not withdraw his/her plea based upon the Court's decision not to accept a

sentencing recommendation made by the defendant, this Office, or a recommendation made jointly by the defendant and this Office.

13. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily agrees to the entry of a forfeiture money judgment against the defendant in the amount of \$48,064.79 (US) (hereinafter, the “Forfeiture Money Judgment”), which the defendant agrees is a sum of money equal in value to the proceeds that the defendant obtained which are traceable to the commission of the violation to which the defendant agrees to plead guilty herein.

14. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily agrees to waive the defendant’s right to a hearing, pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(1)(A), to determine the amount of the Forfeiture Money Judgment. Furthermore, the defendant knowingly and voluntarily agrees that the defendant shall not, in any manner, act in opposition to the United States in seeking entry and full satisfaction of the Forfeiture Money Judgment.

15. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily agrees to waive the following rights with respect to the entry of the Forfeiture Money Judgment against the defendant:

- (a) All constitutional, legal, and equitable defenses to such forfeiture;
- (b) Any constitutional or statutory double jeopardy defense or claim regarding such forfeiture;
- (c) Any claim or defense to such forfeiture brought or raised under the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution, including, but not limited to, any claim or defense of excessive fine; and
- (d) Any right the defendant may have to an appeal of any resulting order of forfeiture regarding the Personal Property and/or the Forfeiture Money Judgment.

16. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily agrees and understands that the entry of the Forfeiture Money Judgment agreed upon herein and satisfaction thereof shall not be treated as satisfaction (either partial or full) of any assessment, fine, restitution, cost of imprisonment, or any other penalty that the Court may impose upon the defendant in addition to the forfeiture. The defendant also agrees to assist this Office in all proceedings, administrative or judicial, involving forfeiture to the United States of any property, including substitute property, regardless of its nature or form, real or personal, which the defendant or others known to the defendant, have accumulated as a result of illegal activities. This assistance shall include: identification of any property subject to forfeiture, agreement to the entry of an order enjoining the transfer or encumbrance of such property, and the transfer of such property to the United States by delivery to this Office upon this Office's request, any necessary and appropriate documentation, including consents to forfeiture and quit claim deeds, to deliver good and marketable title to such property.

17. The defendant is aware that Title 28, United States Code, Section 1291 and Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742 afford the defendant the right to appeal the sentence imposed in this case. Acknowledging this, in exchange for the undertakings made by the United States in this plea agreement, the defendant hereby waives all rights conferred by Sections 1291 and 3742 to appeal any sentence imposed, including any restitution order, or to appeal the manner in which the sentence was imposed, unless the sentence exceeds the maximum permitted by statute or is the result of an upward departure and/or an upward variance from the advisory guideline range that the Court establishes at sentencing. The defendant further understands that nothing in this agreement shall affect the government's right and/or duty to appeal as set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742(b) and Title 28, United States Code, Section 1291. However, if the

United States appeals the defendant's sentence pursuant to Sections 3742(b) and 1291, the defendant shall be released from the above waiver of the defendant's right to appeal his sentence.

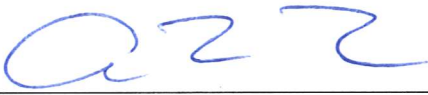
18. The defendant further hereby waives all rights conferred by Title 28, United States Code, Section 1291 to assert any claim that (1) the statute(s) to which the defendant is pleading guilty is/are unconstitutional; and/or (2) the admitted conduct does not fall within the scope of the statute(s) of conviction.

19. By signing this agreement, the defendant acknowledges that the defendant has discussed the appeal waiver set forth in this agreement with the defendant's attorney. The defendant further agrees, together with this Office, to request that the Court enter a specific finding that the defendant's waiver of the right to appeal the sentence imposed in this case and the right to appeal the conviction in the manner described above was knowing and voluntary.

20. This is the entire agreement and understanding between this Office and the defendant. There are no other agreements, promises, representations, or understandings.

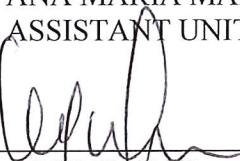
MARKENZY LAPOINTE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Date: 3/10/23

By: 

ANA MARIA MARTINEZ
ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Date: 3/10/23

By: 

RICK YABOR
ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT

Date: 3/10/23

By: 

CARLOS ORLANDO LEDESMA
DEFENDANT